

# NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE, N.M., March 16, 2016—The 3-6 Air Defense Artillery Test Detachment at White Sands Missile Range will be increasing its troop strength from 35 to 143 active duty Soldiers in October of 2018. The additional Soldiers will start arriving before the effective date of the unit stand up from various units across the Army.

The 3-6 ADA Test Detachment's mission is to provide expertise and knowledge in support of Army Missile Defense programs, conduct developmental tests, flight tests, tactics, techniques and procedures development in preparation for Directorate of Testing and Evaluation/Army Test and Evaluation Command operational tests. The increase of Soldiers for the test detachment coincides with the Chief of Staff of the Army's approved plan to dedicate a U.S. Army patriot battalion and Air Defense test attachment to modernize and test air and missile defense capabilities at WSMR and Fort Bliss, Texas.

The Test Detachment's equipment inventory will increase with additional missile launchers, radars and other equipment the detachment will test to ensure Soldiers have the best equipment possible while deployed serving the nation.

"We are thrilled to welcome more active duty Soldiers to WSMR," said WSMR Commander Brig. Gen. Timothy Coffin. "The 3-6 ADA has an extremely important mission and WSMR is the best place for them to test alongside the ATEC mission which launches missiles year round on our 2.2 million-acre range."

For additional information, call the White Sands Missile Range Public Affairs Office at 575-678-1134.